

7-5-1862

# Oliver Butler to John Hodsdon regarding Erastus Proctor, July 5, 1862

Oliver Butler

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Appleton July 5<sup>th</sup> 1862.

Mr. Hodsdon!

Dear Sir, we have a man in our town who thinks that he is entitled to the Soldiers Act, and we would like to have your opinion if we should assist him under the Act, whether the State would reimburse to the town the assistance that they should render to his family. In short we will state his claims. Proctor came to us last April and said that he had a son in the army and that he was entitled to have assistance under the Act. We asked him if his ~~son~~ son was a minor, he said that <sup>he</sup> was twenty three years old but he said that he was dependent on him we asked him if he had any writings to show us that he was to take care of him he said no, we told him that we could not help him under the act unless he could show to us that he was his main support. Proctor wrote to his son in the army and this is a copy of what he wrote. You said in your letter that the Selectmen wanted a word from me showing that I was your main support now as for that I see no way for you to get along without me therefore I want you to call on the state for help that it might save some dry meals for I am your main support. Others have help why not I, others had a bounty, I have none, others had help by subscription to help their parents wives and children



I have none, now the state makes provisions for a little help. Our pay is small and it does but little to support a family and we have not been paid a cent since I enlisted, so you must have help from some source and that is the last resource so I claim it as due me.

I am your son Erastus Proctor.

P. S. This Henry A. Proctor is somewhat poor, but his ~~consists~~ family consists of his wife and two sons one about ten years and the other about eighteen.

What is your opinion in regard to families coming under this act that is living in a town where their husbands or sons enlisted and having their residence in an other town. Which town should assist them the one that they have their residence in under the Poor Law or the one that they live in at the time of their enlistment.

Please answer these inquiries by return of mail and we will be much obliged

Yours with respect

John L. Hodsdon,  
Adjutant General.

Oliver R. Butler Selectman  
Per Order ) of Appleton

O. R. Butler  
Appleton

July 5/62